

THE PROPOSED TAX BILL

In our local columns will be found the salient points in the tax bill reported to the Governor by the tax commission. The full bill and report have not been given to the public yet, and until it has been, people will hardly be able to form any intelligent conclusion as to its merits. On one or two points, however, the people will not be slow or modest in expressing the strongest kind of feelings of opposition. We refer to the provision on the subject of deductions for indebtedness. These deductions are only allowed to any one having credit. Thus, if a man is in debt \$1000 and he holds notes or other obligations against his neighbor to the amount of \$1000, he will be allowed a deduction for indebtedness to the extent of \$1000. If the notes which he holds amount only to \$500 then he will be allowed \$500 deductions for indebtedness. If he has no credits, he is allowed no deduction. We can hardly conceive how so intelligent a body of men could be led to offer such a proposition to the free, intelligent people of the state. We are pleased to note the fact that our fellow townsman, Hon. R. S. Strahan, who was President of the commission, protests most earnestly against this feature of the bill. This feature will, we feel confident, be knocked out in the first round when the matter comes up for consideration in the legislature. We say this for the reason that it does not require much reflection to see that this law would place the burden of taxation upon the very persons who are least able to bear it. We shall comment upon this bill further when we see the full text. We are satisfied that it has much merit in it, and we think it will form the basis of a good sound system of assessment and taxation.

FERRY

The Plaindealer is making frantic efforts to convince its readers that the Republican party is the steadfast friend of prohibition, and that the Democratic party is, unthinkingly, the enemy of temperance, and to prove it, its editor refers to the fact that the members of the legislature of that county voted to submit a prohibitory amendment to the people and they are all Republicans. Very well, Bro. Buick, eight out of the nine members of the two houses from this county voted for the same amendment, and the ninth would have voted for it had he been present, and they are all Democrats. From Bro. Buick's style of reasoning we conclude that the Democrats are the true friends of temperance. Dr. Waita states at the last Alliance that had it not been for the support of the Democratic members from Linn county, the amendment would have been killed in the first stage. But why not just as well admit the fact that both parties are divided on this question? Every intelligent reader of the Plaindealer knows that neither party is for temperance as a party, and they will lose their respect for that paper when it attempts to reach their reason through their prejudice. Be candid, Bro. Buick.

STATE TREASURER

We are informed that Mr. C. P. Burkhardt of this county will submit his name to the next Democratic State Convention as a candidate for State Treasurer. Mr. Burkhardt is an old citizen of this county and has always exhibited a commendable spirit of enterprise in promoting the industrial and material interests of the county and state. It was owing almost entirely to his efforts that Oregon secured the medal and diploma for cereals at the Centennial in 1876 at Philadelphia. He is a man fully competent for the office, and it would be a just recognition of his life long devotion to the principles of the Democratic party if the nomination should be given to him.

OTHER CANDIDATES

In addition to the candidates mentioned last week we are informed that Levi Douglas, of Harrisonburg, is out for Sheriff, and H. S. Williams, of Seio precinct, is out for Assessor. Of Seio precinct, is out for Assessor. Mr. Rainey will not be a candidate for Sheriff. Mr. Douglas, Mr. Moss and Mr. Williams are all good men, and we could support them cheerfully if nominated. If any other candidates pop up we will duly expose him to the public eye.

REGISTER

Every Democrat should consider the importance of registering in order to vote at the June election. One vote may elect or defeat a candidate for Governor, a Congressman or other state officer, or a candidate for a county office, and it may be your vote. Your best friend may be on the ticket and may be defeated because you cannot vote, or elected because you can and do. Let every Democrat see that his neighbor

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"ENVYING PREJUDICES"

It has come to be that when any Democrat in Congress rises in his place and objects to a bill before that body on the ground that it is in derogation of the rights of the states under the constitution, that every large fry and small fry Republican journal in the country bursts forth with sneering expressions about the "obsolete" doctrine of state rights. Our cotemporary, the Herald, a few days since indulged in this silly stuff because Maxey and other Senators, in the course of their utterances, saw fit to oppose the Blair education bill on the ground that it invaded the rights of the states under the constitution. Is it to be accounted unto a man that he is ignorant, rebellious, filled with "envying prejudices," simply because he opposes a bill because he believes it is not in consonance with the constitution? Are these charges to be brought against the ablest constitutional lawyers of the country by those, who, by their own words, seem to have but little knowledge of the organic law of the land? Will our cotemporary attempt to maintain the proposition that "any measure that advances intelligence is both safe, constitutional and wise"? We trust not. It might "advance intelligence" for Congress to appropriate a half millions dollars for the support of schools in Oregon, to be expended by agents appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, who should be authorized to come here and take entire charge and control of our public school system, and thus ignore the authority of the state in the premises, but would such a course be either "constitutional, safe or wise"? Our cotemporary says so, but every man who has acquired a knowledge of the elementary principles of our government knows that there is no warrant in the constitution for such an assumption of power by Congress. It is true that the Blair bill does not involve such a stretch of power as suggested above. On the contrary, it is very ingeniously drawn for the purpose of avoiding the objection that Congress has no jurisdiction in the premises. In fact this bill leaves it optional with each state whether it will comply with the provisions of the bill and accept the money appropriated, or whether it will choose not to comply and thus lose the money appropriated. The motives which lead Maxey and others to oppose the bill are certainly disinterested ones, as if the bill becomes a law, the states whose Senators are now opposing the bill on constitutional grounds will receive far more money in proportion than those states whose Senators favor the bill. It would be just as constitutional for Congress to undertake to prescribe the maximum and minimum ages within which pupils should be admitted to the public schools of Oregon, as it would be for it to attempt to prescribe the age at which a person should arrive before being allowed to vote for President of the United States. Congress has no more constitutional power to act in either case than Great Britain has. The rights of the states now are, the same as they were before the war, except as they are limited and modified by the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifth amendments of the constitution. We think the time has arrived when any person should be allowed to invoke a construction of the constitution for which our forefathers fought so valiantly without being sneered at by such remarks as "obsolete state rights nightmare."

FAIRVIEW

Mrs. Traxler, in company with another lady and two children, met with an accident while attempting to cross a pool of water on the Corvallis road. They might have had a serious time had it not been for the assistance of Mr. Beech who happened to be near.

Miss May Matthews, of Eugene, is visiting with her sister, Mrs. Etsa Emery.

Maggie Davies has had a severe attack of pneumonia, but is now convalescent.

A Fire Insurance man of Albany, representing the State, passed through our part of the county this week.

Most farmers are taking advantage of the nice weather and are busy ploughing.

Dr. White was treated to a dinner on his last birthday, by relatives and friends.

A few of our young people enjoyed a social evening at the residence of Johnson Whites.

Our omnibus complain of the scarcity of game.

Rev. Davis preached at the Fairview Church last Sunday, filling his regular appointment.

Your correspondent notices that the DEMOCRAT has a good circulation here, and we think it is universally appreciated.

John Fugh, of Shedd, passed through our county this week.

VEAL

Lower Bridge Creek.

Health very good.

The winter has been very mild so far. We had a few cold days in January, and about 6 inches of snow, which remained but three days, but this month, (February), has been pleasant with frequent warm showers.

Grass is growing finely and farmers are ploughing. Low lands are very productive and bring bountiful harvests. The high lands are covered with grass.

Horses and cattle do well, but this country is more particularly adapted to sheep raising. The climate is usually warm and sheep do well without feed.

We have a good school.

The valley here is narrow, with rimrock on one side towering one above another, with numerous soil beds with petrified bones that have doubtless lain here for hundreds of years.

Our timber consists of alder, birch and willow along the creeks, and the low hills are dotted over with juniper, which is used for fuel. Back in the mountains is found excellent pine for lumbering purposes.

Our little town of Mitchell has two stores, two hotels, two blacksmith shops, two saloons, one doctor, one artist and a Baptist Church.

M. E. C.

Oak Creek.

Mr. John Spangler, of Independence, has been visiting relatives in this vicinity for the past week.

Miss Laura and Ella Holman and Mr. John Holman, of Benton county, were visiting relatives and friends here last week.

Miss Clara Williams departed last Monday for the Waldo Hills on a visit to her uncle, T. A. Jones, where she expects to remain a few weeks.

The concert held at the Oak Creek Baptist Church last Saturday evening was well attended, there being as many present as the church would very well accommodate. The exercises all went off nicely, with as few mistakes as could be expected from the little practice they had.

The school at Oak Creek will close next Friday. Great preparations are being made for the exhibition to be held at the school house on Friday evening, March 5th. It is expected to be an interesting affair and all are invited to attend. The drama entitled, "Out in the Streets," alone will be worth coming to hear. Time of representation, one hour. The following are the names of characters: Col. Wayne, Mr. Joe Hunter; Mrs. Wayne, Miss Roy Fry; Nina Wayne, Miss Allie Anderson; Solomon Davis, Mr. Richard Fry; Mrs. Davis, Miss Edie Williams; Mrs. Bradford, Miss Alma Anderson; Minnie Bradford, Miss Lida Berkwick; Dr. Mcfield, Mr. Ernest Berkwick; North Carolina Pete, Mr. Harvey Perry; Policeman, Mr. George Green.

Oregon Kidney Tea. For sale by all drug stores.

Libbie J. Ambley, teacher.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Sodaville.

Meetings are still being held at this place with good results. Several papers have professed religion, and quite an amount of interest is being taken. The meeting will continue over Sunday, and probably longer.

Next Sabbath at 10 o'clock the people will meet for the purpose of organizing a Sabbath School.

Mr. Olney Fry, of Oak Creek, was in town the first of the week.

St. Valentine has passed and gone, but not without leaving considerable fun and curiosity behind him.

Prof. Wm. Crowhurst, the popular temperance lecturer, of California, was expected to have lectured at Sodaville last Friday evening, but for some unknown reason failed to make his appearance.

The dance on the 15th inst. proved a success, quite a large crowd being present. Supper was served at the Fountain House, and all had a good time.

Miss Rita Parrish has gone to Albany, where she will remain a week or two.

Mr. Prior, of Stayton, returned home yesterday.

Mr. Boyie and family have moved to Sodaville, intending to remain here till next Fall, when he will move on to his farm near here.

Mr. Johns, of Halsey, is again in town.

Mr. John Hon is reported as being no better.

"A Rock Hiller" was in town the first of the week, probably for the purpose of gathering items as he has taken it upon himself to assist "Wave" in placing the news of Sodaville before the reading public.

Miss Eva Mack, of Lebanon, was in the city a few days ago.

WAVE

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Brownsville.

Mr. Sharp, of Alder, was here Tuesday looking after his property. Geo. Cochran drove another car load of sheep from this vicinity last Thursday.

Last Wednesday evening Mrs. Wilson of this place was married to Mr. Luelling, of Clackamas county. Tuesday morning they departed for the home of Mr. Luelling in Clackamas county where they will make their future home. They have the good wishes of every one in the community.

M. A. Miller a candidate for the office of County School Superintendent was here last Friday.

Two of Finley McCrue's little daughters are quite sick from diphtheria.

Last Friday Messrs. Croft & Kay received from the East a machine for weaving picket fences. They expect to soon enclose their large farm near here with that kind of fencing.

Messrs. Robt Blanchard and Julius Ziner two of our woolen mill men went to Eugene City Tuesday via Coburg.

Mrs. Etsa Parrish has gone to Albany to Corvallis to remain for some time.

The failure of Dr. A. P. Graves to meet his appointment here Saturday was a source of great disappointment to the church going people of this place.

Rev. J. C. Baker, of Salem, preached two excellent sermons to crowded houses Sunday and Sunday evening. By private letter we learn that Dr. Graves will be here next Tuesday to begin revival services and will remain ten days.

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COUNTY MEMORIAL

Brownsville, Feb. 24.

My ballot has been mentioned quite prominently recently by several Democratic papers in connection with the nomination for the office of County Clerk of Linn county at the coming County Convention, and in the last week's issue of the DEMOCRAT, you publish my name in the list of candidates for that position.

Justice to myself demands that I should take some notice of the matter in a public manner, now that it has gone as far as it has, and that I should explain to the public the relation that I bear to the matter. I am not a candidate for that office in any sense that your item would seem to imply. Some three or four months ago I was approached by prominent and influential Democrats of Linn county, and was asked if, in view of facts resulting from my defeat two years ago, I would consent to allow my name to be run for the office of County Clerk, provided my friends saw fit to give me the nomination. In reply to this, I answered that if the convention when assembled saw fit to give me the nomination, and the party thought it would in any way conduce to harmony in the ranks, that I would not feel at liberty to decline it. The gist of these propositions have by me been submitted to my immediate friends, and has met with their approval.

Two years ago I was a candidate in good faith, and made what I conceived to be an honorable contest for the nomination, and was successful over an honorable and popular opponent as there is in this county, but for some reason best known to those who did it, I was defeated at the polls. Now I have no particular personal grievance to set up in the matter, but to say that my friends and I were deeply humiliated is only stating the case very mildly. If the whole ticket, or any reasonable portion of it had been defeated also, we would have ascribed it to one of those anomalous conditions that frequently arise in politics, and would not have felt that we had any personal grievance in the matter, but to be thus taken out alone and knifed in the manner I was is something that does not set well on our political stomachs. But I imagine I hear some say, "Well what are you going to do about it?" In answer I have to say that we do not propose to do anything. But that there is dissatisfaction, and that it will to a greater or less extent bring about a realignment of the party, is a fact that I believe in, and is the natural result of the action of two years ago and will to some extent unsettle county politics for some time to come. It was to counteract this, that the propositions mentioned were made to me and my friends, and we propose to meet it in the spirit of conciliation and do what we can to wipe out the past. And to this end I think it probable the delegation from Brownsville, the precinct will present my name for voting against me, and thus far I am a candidate, and no farther. I do not expect to put forth any effort to get the nomination, I am a poor man with a large family to support, and it takes me all my time juggling to earn a support for them and I cannot spare the time and means to make another contest for the nomination, if I felt naturally so inclined.

Now, in conclusion, I desire to say a few words personal to myself. I hear it said that the excuse rendered by a great many for voting against me two years ago was that I had formerly been a Republican, and that